

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 01305 130607Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 SP-02 ICA-11 AID-05
NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04
SIL-01 AGRE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 /110 W
-----092240 132201Z /65

R 121344Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5346
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 1305

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, XL

SUBJ: CONSULATATIONS ON CARIBBEAN GROUP

REF: STATE 115863

1. IN ABSENCE MINISTER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FORDE, WHO WAS IN TRINIDAD, AMBASSADOR CALLED MAY 11 ON PERMSEC SYMMONDS TO DISCUSS MAY DONORS MEETING AND FOLLOWING JUNE MEETING OF CARIBBEAN GROUP(CG).

2. SYMMONDS ACCEPTED WISDOM OF HOLDING DONORS MEETING WHILE CONFIRMING THAT TRINIDAD HAD ALSO BEEN INVITED TO PARIS, APPARENTLY BY WORLD BANK. HE SAID TRINIDAD NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER IT WOULD SEND OBSERVER.

3. REGARDING POSSIBILITY THAT CARICOM MIGHT AGAIN ACCEPT FORDE AS SPOKESMAN AT CG MEETING, SYMMONDS EXPLAINED THAT FORDE HAD FALLEN INTO ROLE OF CARICOM SPOKESMAN AT DECEMBER MEETING BY REQUEST WILLIAM DEMAS, PRESIDENT,
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CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.

IN JUNE, HOWEVER, COMMON POSITIONS MAY BE MORE DIFFICULT TO REACH AND BARBADOS WILL NOT OFFER ITSELF AS SPOKESMAN UNLESS ASKED.

4. THIS WEEK IN TRINIDAD, FORDE WAS TO SOUND OUT

POSSIBILITY OF PRIME MINISTER ADAMS VISITING TRINIDAD
FOR TALKS DIRECTLY WITH WILLIAMS. FORDE REPORTEDLY
THINKS WILLIAMS COULD TAKE DECISIONS

WHICH WOULD OBVIATE FORMAL CARICOM MEETING OF HEADS OF
GOVERNMENT. IF HELD, LATTER SESSION COULD NOT TAKE
PLACE UNTIL JULY OR AUGUST, SYMONDS SAID, AND WOULD NOT
THEREFORE BEAR DIRECTLY ON CG MEETING.

5. DCM ALSO DISCUSSED CG WITH GLORIA PAYNE, PERMSEC FOR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GRENADA. PM GAIRY OUT OF COUNTRY.
HER GOVERNMENT ANNOYED AT NOT HAVING BEEN INVITED TO CARICOM
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS PREPCOM MEETING IN BARBADOS
THIS WEEK, AND GRENADA IN ANY CASE LUKEWARM ABOUT
POSSIBILITY OF FORDE EMERGING AS SPOKESMAN AGAIN.
SHE BELIEVES IT IS IMPERATIVE BEFORE CG MEETING
THAT WORLD BANK MISSION COME TO EASTERN CARIBBEAN AS
ORIGINALLY "PROMISED" TO REVIEW REGIONAL PROJECTS.
OTHERWISE, SHE SAID, DISCUSSIONS AT CG WILL BE
HAMPERED IN SEVERAL IMPORTANT AREAS SUCH AS AIR AND
SEA TRANSPORT.

6. REGARDING BEST TIMING FOR BILATERAL TALKS,
BARBADOS COULD PRESUMABLY ACCEPT ANY TIME BETWEEN
DONORS MEETING AND CG MEETING. FOR GRENADA, LAST WEEK IN MAY
AND FIRST WEEK JUNE BAD BECAUSE OF A MEETING OF
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"EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT" REPORTEDLY BEING HELD GRENADA
MAY 29-JUNE 3.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRIDGE01305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780204-0316
Format: TEL
From: BRIDGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780566/aaaacdwb.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 47e616a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 115863
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2712082
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULATATIONS ON CARIBBEAN GROUP
TAGS: EFIN, EAID, ECIN, XL, BB, US, CARICOM, CARIBBEAN GROUP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/47e616a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014